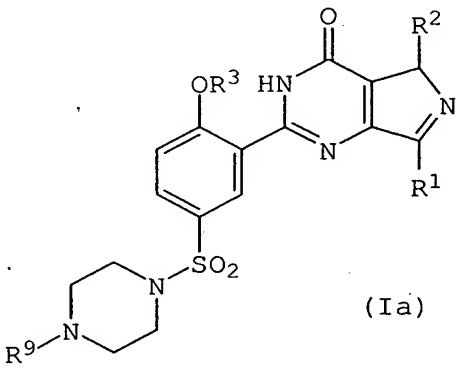
**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Previously amended) The method of claim 5 wherein the pharmaceutical agent comprises a compound of formula (Ia):

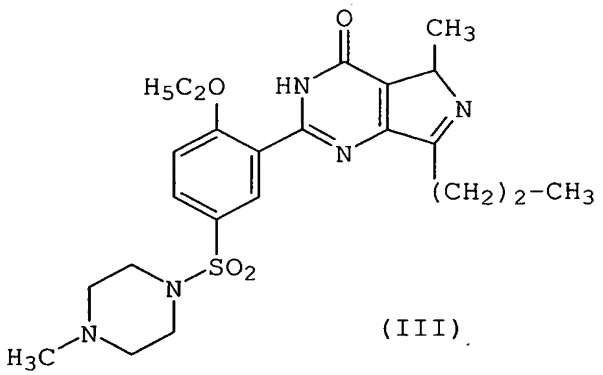


(Ia)

wherein $R^9$ is an alkyl group having 1-4 C atoms which, optionally, are substituted with halogen or replaced by halogen;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

3. (Previously amended) The method of claim 5 wherein the pharmaceutical agent comprises a compound of formula (III):

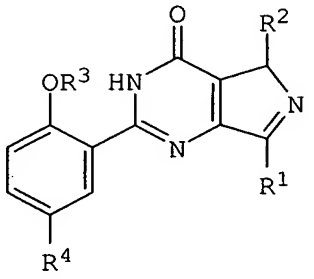


(III)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently amended) A method for a chemotherapeutic treatment of ~~an autonomous~~ a neuropathy characterized by application to a patient in need thereof of from 1-100 mg/day of a pharmaceutical agent comprising a compound of formula (I):



(I)

in which

$R^1$=$C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally substituted with halogen,

$R^2$=hydrogen or $C_{1-4}$alkyl, optionally substituted with halogen or replaced with halogen,

$R^3$=$C_{2-4}$alkyl, optionally substituted with halogen,

$R^4$=$SO_2NR^5R^6$,

$C_{1-4}$alkyl, optionally substituted with $NR^5R^6$, CN, $CONR^5R^6$, $CO_2R^7$, or halogen,

$C_{2-4}$-alkenyl, optionally substituted with $NR^5R^6$, $SONR^5R^6$, $CONR^5R^6$, $CO_2R^7$, or halogen,

$C_{2-4}$-alkanoyl, optionally substituted with $NR^5R^6$, $SONR^5R^6$, $CONR^5R^6$, $CO_2R^7$, or halogen,

$R^5$ and $R^6$, independent of one another, represent hydrogen or $C_{1-4}$alkyl, or, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, represent a pyrrolidino, piperidino, morpholino, 4-($NR^8$)-1-pipera-

zinyl or 1-imidazolyl ring which, optionally, may be substituted with one or two $C_{1-4}$alkyl groups,

$R^7$=hydrogen or $C_{1-4}$alkyl, optionally, substituted with fluorine, and

$R^8$=hydrogen, $C_{1-3}$alkyl, or hydroxy alkyl having 1-4 C atoms, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein the neuropathy is selected from the group consisting of a peripheral diabetic polyneuropathy, gastroparesis, a degenerative neuropathy, a toxic neuropathy, and a metabolic neuropathy.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein from 5-50 mg/day of said pharmaceutical agent is administered to a patient being treated.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein from 25-50 mg/day of said pharmaceutical agent is administered to a patient being treated.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)